MEMORANDUM

TO: PROVIDER NETWORK

FROM: PAUL RADOMSKI, WALTER LAUX, JANET FLEEGE, GENA SOUSA

SUBJECT: REDUCTION IN RSC CAPACITY

DATE: 2/22/2007

As you are aware, the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division created an "Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) Sustainability Plan" to address the significant decrease in available AODA service and treatment funds for 2007. This plan was presented to the Health and Human Needs Committee of the County Board of Supervisors as an informational item at their January 2007 meeting.

The overall "Sustainability Plan" was far reaching, addressing every present component of the WIser Choice system, i.e., Central Intake Unit, Clinical Treatment Services, Recovery Support Coordination (RSC) and Recovery Support Services. For each service area identified in the plan, it was determined that significant changes in processes and available services must be made in order to assure maximal service availability in conjunction with available funds. It is now time to implement the first major components of the sustainability plan.

As part of the plan, it has been determined that the Behavioral Health Division must reduce RSC services throughout the course of the year. More specifically, it was further determined that current agreements with three RSC agencies must be terminated and staff reductions in two other RSC agencies are necessary effective April 1, 2007. BHD staff will work collaboratively with the affected agencies to identify those clients that will need to be transitioned to other RSC agencies. It must be emphasized that these decisions are the result of the fiscal realities that the system must address, and not indicative of the work quality of individual Recovery Support Coordinators. We welcome the opportunity to work with these colleagues in the future as they move on to different jobs and roles.

Although these measures are a major step in the Sustainability Plan, it is one of many that will have significant implications for clients, services and the system. Our goal is to continue to preserve those components of the system that work well, improve services and processes and to ensure, to the extent possible, that persons in the community receive the support they need.